

Index of Spanish-American War Veterans Now Available Online

INDIANAPOLIS (December 29, 2011) – The nationally-recognized Indiana Digital Archives (www.indianadigitalarchives.org) has new digital collections available for anyone interested in Indiana heritage and genealogy. The United Spanish War Veterans (USWV) database includes over 6,470 entries for members of the Indiana Department of the USWV. The database, including the Indiana subset, was created in 1904 by the merger of three smaller record sets of Spanish-American War veterans. At the peak of the war, there were over ninety camps (posts) located in towns across Indiana.

Although the USWV national headquarters closed in 1998, Indiana USWV records have remained housed at the Indiana State Archives. Membership files for the Indiana Department of the USWV are organized alphabetically by veterans' names. Typical files contain applications, membership information, pension correspondence, and death notices (TAPS). Information on spouses and widows can also be found within many files.

"Indiana has a proud Spanish-American War legacy of being the first state in the union to have its entire quota mustered into serviceⁱ," said Jim Corridan, State Archivist and Director of the Indiana Commission on Public Records. "As with military conflicts that preceded and followed the Spanish-American War, Hoosier soldiers have led the way in defense of our nation and we at the State Archives feel privileged to share their records with current and future generations of Hoosiers."

In addition to USWV database, the Indiana Digital Archives has added the 945-entry DeKalb County, 1376-entry Wabash County, and 823-entry Wells County naturalization databases. The Digital Archives now holds 35 of Indiana's 92 counties naturalization databases with plans to add more Indiana counties in the future. These databases provide great insight into Hoosier immigration at the county level.

Researchers can view the United Spanish War Veterans database and the naturalization databases along with many other popular Indiana State Archives collections through the Indiana Digital Archives. Friends of the Indiana State Archives volunteers have been hard at work for nearly two decades creating indices for many of the state's records. From before statehood in 1816 and on through to its approaching bicentennial, Indiana has been home to thousands of settlers and immigrants. The Digital Archives enables Hoosiers and citizens worldwide to view the vast collection of historical and vital records housed at the State Archives.

About the Indiana Digital Archives

The Indiana Digital Archives is operated by the State Archives Division of the Indiana Commission on Public Records. The result of a cooperative partnership made possible by a grant from the Library of Congress and administered by the Washington State Archives, the Digital Archives has more than 2.8 million searchable records online. Other partners include the states of Alaska, Colorado, Idaho, Louisiana, Montana, Nevada, North Carolina, and Oregon. The Digital Archives was named a 2011 Best State Website by "Family Tree Magazine."

About the Indiana State Archives

The Indiana State Archives collects records of historical value from all branches of Indiana state and local government, including governmental history, census and naturalization records for families, selected medical, military and criminal records, records of land ownership, maps, blueprints and photographs. Visit the Collections Page for a detailed listing of these resources, including links to online exhibits and electronic indices of select records.

ⁱ Record of Indiana volunteers in the Spanish-American war 1898-1899. Indiana Adjutant General's Office. Issued by the Authority of the 61st Indiana General Assembly, 1899. (<http://books.google.com/books?id=JnYtAAAAYAAJ>)